

THE
MONTHLY



BULLETIN



Volume 44 Berkeley, California March, 1962 Number 3

SAN FRANCISCO CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT 1961

Area Covered: Marina, Palace of Fine Arts, McLaren Park, Lands End, Sutro Heights, Golden Gate Park, Lake Merced, Stern's Grove, Fleishhacker Area, Pacific Ocean Beach, Seal Rocks, Presidio, San Francisco and Marin County Bayshore, Rodeo Lagoon, Treasure and Yerba Buena Islands, San Francisco docks and small city parks.

Observers and Leaders*: William Austen, Leslie Bartow*, Tyra Bartow, John Bigler, Dr. Albert Boles*, Robert Chase*, Lilian Cuka, Mrs. Robert Da Costa, Jr.*, Robert Da Costa, Jr., Buck Delventhal, Dr. Lucille Eising, Daryl Fisher, Norman Fitzwater, Erline Hevel*, Ruth Johnson, Ethelwynn Kilham, Barbara Land, Elizabeth Land*, L. R. Leinbach*, Mary Leinbach, Elizabeth Lennon*, Stephen Lewis*, Blanch Mack, Joan Mayerle*, Edward Martin, Thomas Oczkewecz*, Harold Peterson*, Aileen Pierson*, Dan Pingwall, Florence Plymell*, Marjorie Sherin, Walker Stokes, Patricia Tiggard, Patricia Triggs, John Ulrick, David Wadsworth, Steve Wilhelm.

Unusual number of fulmars were seen.

* Species of special interest

Totals: 129 species, 23,263 individuals, 40 observers

Compiler: Carlyle Sather

LOON, Common	5	EGRET, Snowy	1
Red-throated	1	HERON, Bl. Cr., Night	2
GREBE, Horned	6	SWAN, Whistling	8
Eared	17	GOOSE, Canada	8
Western	629	BRANT, Black	105
Pied-billed	37	GOOSE, White-fronted	5
*FULMAR	231	Snow	2
PELICAN, White	128	Mallard	468
Brown	1	Gadwall	3
CORMORANT, Double-cr.	220	Pintail	14
Brandt's	335	TEAL, Green-winged	4
Pelagic	189	WIDGEON, American	1,029
HERON, Great Blue	1	Shoveler	35
Green	1		

DUCK, Wood	1	PHOEBE, Black	30
Ring-necked	110	Say's	2
Canvasback	105	JAY, Scrub	35
SCAUP, Greater	10	RAVEN, Common	6
Lesser	13	*NUTCRACKER, Clark's	2
GOLDENEYE, Common	5	CHICKADEE, Chestnut-backed	86
Bufflehead	6	TITMOUSE, Plain	3
SCOTER, White-winged	35	BUSH-TIT, Common	45
Surf	84	NUTHATCH, White-breasted	5
Common	7	Red-breasted	15
DUCK, Ruddy	598	*Pygmy	6
VULTURE, Turkey	4	CREEPER, Brown	7
HAWK, Sharp-shinned	1	Wrentit	13
Cooper's	1	WREN, Winter	4
Red-tailed	14	Bewick's	2
Sparrow	14	Long-billed Marsh	4
QUAIL, California	133	Mockingbird	3
COOT, American	858	ROBIN	1,457
PLOVER, Snowy	25	THRUSH, Varied	53
Killdeer	38	Hermit	49
Surfbird	2	KINGLET, Golden-crowned	6
TURNSTONE, Ruddy	4	Ruby-crowned	46
Black	9	PIPIT, Water	58
SNIPES, Common	3	WAXWING, Cedar	10
CURLEW, Long-billed	16	SHRIKE, Loggerhead	10
SANDPIPER, Spotted	1	*Starling	40
Willet	2	VIREO, Hutton's	7
SANDPIPER, Least	110	*WARBLER, Black-and-White	1
DOWITCHER, Short-billed	23	Orange-crowned	5
SANDPIPER, Western	150	Audubon's	202
GODWIT, Marbled	9	Townsend's	5
Sanderling	202	Yellowthroat	3
PHALAROPE, Red	45	SPARROW, House	276
GULL, Glaucous-winged	1,175	MEADOWLARK, Western	154
Western	1,134	BLACKBIRD, Redwinged	21
Herring	21	Brewer's	1,160
California	2,184	FINCH, Purple	3
Ring-billed	725	House	531
Mew	473	SISKIN, Pine	10
Bonaparte's	6	GOLDFINCH, American	1
Heermann's	9	Lesser	66
TERN, Forster's	1	TOWHEE, Rufous-sided	29
MURRE, Common	2	SPARROW, Savannah	7
GUILLEMOT, Pigeon	1	Lark	1
DOVE, Rock	422	JUNCO, Oregon	435
Mourning	22	SPARROW, White-crowned	697
OWL, Screech	1	Golden-crowned	218
HUMMINGBIRD, Anna's	200	Fox	158
Allen's	1	Song	53
KINGFISHER, Belted	2	Ducks species?	158
FLICKER, Red-shafted	107	Gulls species?	4,090
SAPSUCKER, Yellow-bellied	2	Cormorants species?	150
WOODPECKER, Downy	6		

OAKLAND CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT 1961

Area Covered: 15 mile diameter circle centered at Estates Drive and Moraga Avenue in Oakland.

Weather: Temperature 28-59 degrees, wind W-NW 1-15 mph, clear over bay and western section, foggy most of the day eastern section of count area.

Leaders: Harry Adamson, E. A. Albertson, Albert Boles, Ted Chase, Paul Covel, A. L. Curl, Phyllis Lindley, Marie Mans, Dave Nichols, Harold Peterson, Eleanor Pugh, John Ralph, Elsie Roemer, Lee Stallcup, Rich Stallcup, Arthur Wang, Minnie Young.

Observers: Betty Adamson, Alfreda Berg, Barbara Boneysteel, A. S. Campbell, Herold Connon, Cecil Cox, David Crane, Dolph Crapster, Mrs. C. R. Dean, Paul DeBenedictis, Dan Dingwall, Lynn Farrar, Norman Fitzwater, Steve Guhl, Erlene Hevel, Violet Homen, Donald Isaacson, Marshall and Violet Jencks, Erick Johnson, Linda and Sandra Krause, Al Kyte, Larry Lapsley, A. W. Larson, Ida Logan, Mrs. C. J. Lunsford, Jack Mann, Gardner Marshall, Edward Martin, Mrs. G. D. McCallum, Guy McCaskie, Fred Nora, George Payton, Raymond Rapp, Byron Richardson, Jessie Saunders, Edward Schaefer, M. Shafer, Mary Smith, Tom Steller, Lucy Sterne, John and Polly Thomas, Pat Triggs, Mary Underhill, David Wadsworth, Bev Wilder, Jane Woods; Girl Scout Troop 40, Alameda (4 girls, leader, Mrs. Mary Scott); Sea Scouts, Mt. Diablo Council on their ship, the Argonaut.

Totals: 69 observers, 164 species, approximately 83,265 individuals.

*Species of special interest

Compiler: Marie L. Mans

LOON, Common	2
Arctic	1
Red-throated	1
loon (sp.?)	2
GREBE, Red-necked	1
Horned	31
Eared	112
Western	90
Pied-billed	25
*Fulmar	1
PELICAN, White	7
CORMORANT, Double-cr.	56
HERON, Great Blue	7
Green	1
EGRET, Common	4
Snowy	17
HERON, Bl.-cr. Night	3
SWAN, Whistling	16
GOOSE, Canada	479
White-fronted	96
Snow	31
Mallard	147
Gadwall	2
Pintail	2,037
TEAL, Green-winged	56
Cinnamon	3
WIDGEON, American	819
Shoveler	58
DUCK, Wood	17
Redhead	7

DUCK, Ring-necked	36
Canvasback	2,378
SCAUP, Greater	26
Lesser	94
scaup (sp.?)	9,102
GOLDENEYE, Common	311
Bufflehead	373
SCOTER, White-winged	796
Surf	1,145
Common	14
scoter (sp.?)	223
DUCK, Ruddy	2,233
MERGANSER, Hooded	4
Common	67
Red-breasted	6
VULTURE, Turkey	46
HAWK, Sharp-shinned	9
Cooper's	3
Red-tailed	33
*EAGLE, Golden	1
HAWK, Marsh	3
Sparrow	37
QUAIL, California	377
PHEASANT, Ring-necked	3
RAIL, Clapper	3
Virginia	3
Sora	4
*GALLINULE, Common	1
COOT, American	1,328
PLOVER, Semipalmated	185
Snowy	50
Killdeer	197

PLOVER, Black-bellied	701	TITMOUSE, Plain	52
TURNSTONE, Ruddy	3	BUSHTIT, Common	293
Black	10	NUTHATCH, White-breasted	15
SNIPE, Common	16	Red-breasted	30
SANDPIPER, Spotted	5	CREEPER, Brown	4
CURLEW, Long-billed	39	Wrentit	198
Whimbrel	15	WREN, Winter	6
Willet	671	Bewick's	21
YELLOWLEGS, Greater	7	Long-billed Marsh	2
*Knot	4	Rock	1
SANDPIPER, Least	1,135	Mockingbird	42
Dunlin	4,315	THRASHER, California	14
DOWITCHER, Short-billed	6	ROBIN	24,230
Long-billed	10	THRUSH, Varied	76
dowitcher (sp.?)	554	Hermit	164
SANDPIPER, Western	4,025	BLUEBIRD, Western	13
GODWIT, Marbled	313	KINGLET, Golden-crowned	14
Sanderling	1,263	Ruby-crowned	74
AVOCET, American	1,925	PIPIT, Water	182
GULL, Glaucous-winged	1,831	WAXWING, Cedar	568
Western	289	*Phainopepla	1
Herring	83	SHRIKE, Loggerhead	10
California	222	Starling	5
Ring-billed	596	VIREO, Hutton's	17
Mew	646	WARBLER, Orange-crowned	3
Bonaparte's	335	Myrtle	11
gull (sp.?)	648	Audubon's	106
TERN, Forster's	73	Townsend's	3
PIGEON, Band-tailed	71	SPARROW, House	488
DOVE, Mourning	55	MEADOWLARK, Western	415
OWL, Barn	1	BLACKBIRD, Red-winged	101
Screech	8	Tri-colored	6
Great-horned	17	Brewer's	549
Burrowing	2	COWBIRD, Brown-headed	9
Short-eared	13	*GROSBEAK, Evening	13
Saw-whet	1	FINCH, Purple	51
*Poor-will	1	House	566
HUMMINGBIRD, Anna's	101	SISKIN, Pine	691
KINGFISHER, Belted	3	GOLDFINCH, American	135
*FLICKER, Yellow-shafted	1	Lesser	278
Red-shafted	110	TOWHEE, Rufous-sided	117
WOODPECKER, Acorn	26	Brown	565
SAPSUCKER, Yellow-bellied	9	SPARROW, Savannah	216
WOODPECKER, Hairy	1	Lark	3
Downy	11	Rufous-crowned	6
Nuttall's	12	*Sage	1
PHOEBE, Black	16	JUNCO, *Slate-colored	1
Say's	7	Oregon	3,254
LARK, Horned	39	SPARROW, White-crowned	3,388
JAY, Steller's	94	Golden-crowned	1,860
Scrub	197	White-throated	2
CROW, Common	19	Fox	426
CHICKADEE, Chestnut-bk.	117	Lincoln	3
		Song	103

TOMALES BAY CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT 1961—Area: 15 miles diameter circle, center ½ mile NE of Marshalls. Weather: heavy, patchy fog clearing by late morning; daytime temperatures in mid-40's; no wind. **Observations:** 184 species, about 68,000 individuals, 35 observers. Seen during count period, but not on count day: White-throated Swift. Species of special interest: Fulmar, Whistling Swan, Canada Goose, White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, Barrow's Goldeneye, Common Merganser, Rough-legged Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk, Golden Eagle, Bald Eagle, Osprey, Whimbrel, Wandering Tattler, Pomarine Jaeger, Long-eared Owl, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Eastern Phoebe, Townsend's Solitaire, Hermit Warbler, Vesper Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, White-throated Sparrow. Numbers of special interest: 3,091 Least Sandpiper, 7,915 Dunlin, 102 Say's Phoebe, 3,960 Robin, 1,603 Audubon's Warbler.—**Compiler:** Phyllis Lindley.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS—First observed January 10, a Clark's Nutcracker, at the suet feeder of Capt. & Mrs. Herbert E. Kays, The Uplands, Berkeley.

IN MEMORIAM

In memory of

Miss Alfreda Berg
Arthur Bennett

Gift of

Minnie H. Young
Ethel E. Richardson and
Dr. Albert Boles

—Dr. Albert Boles, Sanctuary & Memorial Fund, Chairman

MARCH MEETING

The 527th regular meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held in San Francisco on Thursday, March 8, at 7:30 p. m., at the First Unitarian Church at the corner of Geary and Franklin St.

Dr. T. Eric Reynolds will be the speaker. He is a past president and staunch supporter of our society and is now serving as a member of the board of the Canyon Ranch project. His topic is **Conservation and Environmental Health**. Those who have heard him lecture know that he always has an interesting and thought provoking message. Do come and bring your friends.

A convenient restaurant, Tommy's Joynt, is just a block away at Van Ness and Geary. Join us there at 6 p. m. —MYRA J. BROWNE, Program Chairman

LEADERSHIP FIELD TRIP AT AUDUBON CANYON RANCH—The group will meet at Canyon Ranch on Bolinas Road, north of Stinson Beach, in Marin County at 11 a. m., Saturday, March 31. Children are to be brought by parents or friends. Bring a lunch; the trip will last until 2 p.m.

FIELD TRIPS FOR MARCH

On Sunday, March 4, another attempt will be made to see the elusive Black Rail on the sanctuary near Newark. Meet at the postoffice in Newark at 8:30 a. m. Bring lunch, binoculars, telescopes and water proof shoes.

On Sunday, March 11, to Rodeo Lagoon. Meet at the parking area just north of the Golden Gate Bridge at 9 a. m. This is always an interesting trip with many species of water birds present on either the ocean or the brackish lagoons behind the sandbar. Early spring migrants and Allen's Hummingbirds can be expected. Leader, A. Laurence Curl, Landscape, 6-7004.

On Tuesday, March 13, to Golden Gate Park and Chain of Lakes with a side trip to the Cliff House. This is an old favorite because it has had many surprises such as Green Heron, Florida Gallinule and Wood Duck. Meet at 9:30 a. m. at 43rd Avenue & Fulton Street. Bring binoculars, telescope, lunch and interested friends. Leader, Mrs. Bud Fry, SEabright 1-2874.

On Saturday, March 17 and Sunday March 18, separate trips will be made to Canyon Ranch. This is the place famous for its Egret and Heron nesting sites. Nesting activities should be in progress at this time. You can see the beautiful spot your society is helping to preserve as a nature center. Take the Tamalpais road to Stinson Beach and then north along No. 1 Highway to Canyon Ranch. It is clearly marked. Bring lunch, binoculars, telescopes, cameras and interested friends. Meet at 9:00 a. m. Leadership will be furnished by Marin Audubon Society.

On Saturday, March 24, to Tilden Park. Meet at Spruce Street Reservoir at 9 a. m. From San Francisco take 8:07 a. m. "F" bus and transfer to No. 67 at University Avenue. Orange-crowned and Wilson's Warblers may be seen and heard. A hike to near by hills will be made to see spring flowers. Our leader is a botanist as well as birder. Leader, L. R. Leinbach, Landscape 6-7649.

On Sunday, April 1, a "Birding by Ear" study will be made on the McDonald Trail in Grass Valley Regional Park. A good concentration of birds can be expected in the heavy growth of trees and shrubs all announcing the arrival of spring. Best results are obtained by assembling before daybreak. The sunrise on that day is 5:58 a. m. Assemble at Redwood Road and McDonald Trail which is about 1.4 mile west of the south entrance to Redwood Park at 5:15 a. m. Leader Harold G. Peterson, LO 8-7534.

Field Trips for April:

April 7 & 8, Saturday and Sunday overnight—Fremont Park and Moss Landing.

April 10, Tuesday—Lake Temescal. April 15, Sunday—Bay Farm Island.

April 20 & 21, Friday evening and Saturday morning overnight—Mt. Diablo.

April 28 & 29, Saturday and Sunday—McCoy's Ranch & Patterson Pass.

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

Your response to the informational letter about Audubon Canyon Ranch has been both heart-warming and exciting. In addition to suggestions for raising money and letters of encouragement and support, we received checks and pledges. They ranged from \$5 to \$800, which is the cost of an acre. Those who give or pledge an acre or more are being listed as donors, and their names will be suitably inscribed and permanently displayed at the ranch. Our first donors are Dr. and Mrs. T. Eric Reynolds and Mrs. Henry F. Whitmore. We know that everyone will give what he can, and we thank all of you equally. It's by a united effort that we will succeed.

Through the kindness of Mr. Eugene D. Bennett and Mr. Stanley J. Madden of Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro, who gave us free legal service, the articles of incorporation of Audubon Canyon Ranch were drawn up and filed. The following members of our Golden Gate Audubon Society will be on the board of directors: R. G. Follis, Daniel Koshland, James Mailliard, Mrs. Janet Nickelsburg, Miss Aileen Pierson, Dr. T. Eric Reynolds, Mrs. Beth Snyder. There will also be seven members from the Marin Audubon Society and three people who belong to neither society, but who represent the public. When the board holds its first official meeting on March 7, associate directors will be elected.

Myra Browne will chair the East Bay fund-raising campaign. The name of the San Francisco chairman will be announced in a few days.

We are especially pleased that Laurel Reynolds and Mindy Willis will make a 15-minute film of Audubon Canyon Ranch. You will remember that they made the lovely and moving "An Island in Time" about Point Reyes, which is only a few miles from our ranch.

Meantime, we have been extraordinarily lucky in that Mr. Harry Lee of the J. Walter Thompson Company offered to design a brochure free of charge. We will soon send each of you the brochure and a pledge card. Contributions, however, may be sent without waiting for the card. They should be sent to the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Audubon Canyon Ranch Fund, P. O. Box 2113, San Francisco 26. Miss Erlene Hevel, our society's treasurer, is in charge of the money collected and is banking it in a savings and loan account where it will draw 4.6% interest.

Raising \$300,000 may seem like a big job. It is. But with each of us giving and also enlisting the help of our friends, we can save this piece of land, with its birds, its trees and native shrubs, its wild flowers, its animals, and its intertidal marine life. We can save this nature-education center and wildlife sanctuary for all of us, and those who come after us, to enjoy.

AILEEN PIERSON, President

Trip to Tomales Bay. On Sunday, January 14, 10 early birders met at Inverness at 5 a. m. to identify owls at Tomales State Park. They heard several Great Horned Owls along the Jepsen Trail in below freezing temperature, but none of the smaller owls responded. Shortly after sunrise they located the Eastern Phoebe near Inverness. This small tail wagging phoebe is an accidental straggler from the Eastern U. S. South of Jenner this group found a Rock Sandpiper. This is a bird of the rocky shores rarely reported south of Eureka.

The second group saw Evening Grosbeak at Point Reyes Station. They drove along the east shore of Tomales Bay to Dillon's Beach. Stops en route allowed closeups of large concentrations of Loon, Grebe, Duck, Scoter, and Gull. Several large flocks of Black Brant and White Pelicans were seen in flight. A Rough-legged Hawk was seen close to Dillon's Beach. A total of 115 species were seen by the two groups.

Marie Mans, Leader of the Early Birders.

Harold G. Peterson, Leader of the second group.

FIELD TRIP TO LAKE MERRITT AND JOAQUIN MILLER PARK, Saturday, January 27.

More than thirty members and guests turned out this pleasant winter day. The Sora Rail and Common Gallinule were both sighted on Duck Island No. 1 close to shore, where they returned this season. Some remarked about the fairly large population of wintering Canvasback ranging up to 700, in view of the continental decrease in this species. Birding across Lakeside Park produced the small band of Evening Grosbeak noted since early winter, but failed to turn up the Yellow-shafted Flicker seen by Richard Stallcup, the preceding day.

Some of our young bird-scouters had reported seeing swifts (Vaux?) at the Devil's Punchbowl, early in the month, which persuaded us to trek across Leona Canyon, up to this gigantic excavation and along the ridge and back down the canyon trail, after lunch. The swifts didn't show and neither did the Rufous-crowned Sparrows, Horned Larks and singing thrashers that we had expected—but the exercise and company were good!

A "packed house" on the Browning Monument hilltop behind Woodminster greeted those returning about 4 p. m. Rich Stallcup and John Ralph were rigging their mist nets and at least 25 newcomers had gathered to watch. Good visibility enabled most of the robins to avoid the net, but nineteen birds were caught and banded before curtain was called at 5:30 p. m. A few waxwings and—we regret to add—some Starlings came in to roost with the thousands of robins . . . and a Cooper's Hawk lurked nearby. —Leaders, Harold G. Peterson & Paul Covell.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to our Society: from Beaumont, Miss Barbara Montgomery; from Berkeley, Alice S. Benioff, Mrs. George Bourne, Mr. & Mrs. Eugene B. Butler, Mrs. Margaret Fisher, John G. Hurst, Mr. & Mrs. Roy E. Ramseier, Raymond Rapp, Richard Scheible, Joe West; from Castro Valley, Miss Lillian Visdal; from Concord, Glenn H. Shanks; from El Cerrito, Mrs. W. I. Brucklacher, Mrs. Leslie G. Running; from Fairfield, Dr. R. M. Valeriote; from Lafayette, Mrs. Ethel McGlashan; from Oakland, Mrs. C. R. Dean, Ralph Johnson, John Louis Lohse, Kurt Rademacher, Mrs. J. Thomasberger; from Orinda, Dr. & Mrs. Leonard Roth; from San Francisco, Miss Laverne Barr, Lucile E. Foster, Frances R. Fuller, Doris Griffen, Richard Morris, Ralph K. Paine, Mr. & Mrs. Scott J. Tilden; from San Lorenzo, Robert D. Dougherty. —ROBERTA J. LONG, **Membership Chairman**

AN INVITATION—Members of Golden Gate Audubon Society have sent names of children in relation to the proposed field trips. I would like to invite these children and other children, too, between the ages of 9 and 13 to be my guests on a radio broadcast over KPFA. In this program, children who are interested in nature and science are invited to share their experiences and knowledge with others. The program is **Signposts for Young Scientists**. If you know youngsters who might be interested in participating in the broadcast, phone me WALnut 1-9449, Saturday or Sunday mornings.

—JANET NICKELSBURG, **Education Chairman**

ACTION ON POINT REYES URGENT! Write to Congressman J. T. Rutherford, House Office Building, Washington 25, D. C., and ask for an immediate hearing on Pt. Reyes National Seashore Bill or it may get buried in committee and we will lose the bill entirely. Commercial interests are presently excavating in that area and will, of course, continue if the bill is not passed.

—PAUL COVEL, Conservation Chairman

BARGAIN RATES FOR BRIEF TELEGRAMS TO CONGRESS—A Western Union telegram—limited to 15 words or less—may now be sent to the President of the United States, the Vice President, your senator or your Congressman for just 75 cents. Western Union will include your complete name, address, title and organization at no extra cost.

WILD LIFE FILM TICKETS AVAILABLE in limited number, at the door Berkeley Little Theatre, March 19, 8 p. m., \$1.00 each. Cleveland and Ruth Grant will present **Land of Early Autumn**.

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

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